



## UMW Graduate Rate Among Nation's Highest

By SARAH SMITH  
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington has the fourth highest graduation rate in the country in a select group of colleges, with 77 percent of its students completing bachelor's degrees, according to a study released by the Chronicle of Higher Education in December.

The study looked at four-year public and private nonprofit colleges and universities and took into account first-time, full-time students. The graduation rates—for 2008, the latest national data available—examined students who graduated in six years or less.

Mary Washington's rank was among 246 colleges that the Chronicle of Higher Education classified as public universities with master's programs.

The study also reveals that one-third of the schools reported lower graduation rates in 2008 than in 2003, while UMW's has increased 6 percentage points in that time frame.

UMW's 77 percent graduation rate compares with a national median 53 percent.

For some students, changing family circumstances or finan-

cial troubles can prevent students from graduating within six years, said Provost Jay Harper.

According to Harper, though, if students can see that graduation is only a few semesters away, they are more likely to finish their degree. In these circumstances, quality advising can provide some of the impetus to graduate on time.

Harper said one of the best ways to enable students to graduate on time is to provide them with knowledgeable and supportive advisors.

Leila Shiekhy, a 2010 alumna, agrees with the importance of the university's advising system.

Shiekhy, who graduated with a bachelor's degree in biology, is currently living and traveling in California and has plans to attend graduate school to study animal behavior.

"I know my advisor was really helpful in trying to figure out what I want to do and getting suggestions," she said. "It was helpful having the advisor go over your classes every semester."

According to Harper, the op-  
GRADUATE, page 2 ▶



Marie Nicola/Bullet

An immigrant rights march yesterday got students on campus walk talking about immigration. The Mary Washington Chapter of Virginia Organizing marched, chanting "Immigrant Rights are Human Rights," and "Don't Hate, Educate" to oppose anti-immigrant legislation.

"The awareness march is to bring light to bills that will stop education for immigrants," said Natalie Grossman, president of the Mary Washington chapter. She cited three bills that were specifically being protested. These bills would make access to K-12 school and college more difficult for illegal immigrants and children of illegal immigrants. The event, which was aimed at awareness, gathered about 11 people.

The march was part of Virginia United for Immigrant Rights week, which has about 10 rallies planned across Virginia this week.

## Alumna Named Va. Poet Laureate, Succeeds Emerson

By EDEN BROWN  
Staff Writer

University of Mary Washington alumna, class of '61, Kelly Cherry has been named Virginia's newest Poet Laureate, directly succeeding Claudia Emerson who held the title for the past two years.

Emerson, a Pulitzer Prize winner, is a professor of English and creative writing at UMW.

Another alumna, Carolyn Kreiter-Foronda, class of '69, served as Virginia's Poet Laureate from 2006-2008.

Cherry has published 19 books of fiction, eight claspbooks and two translations of classical dramas. Many of her works have been reprinted in the anthology Best American Short Stories.

Her most recent work is a book of poems called "The Retreats of Thought," made up of a series of sonnets about philosophy.

Cherry is also the first recipient of the Hanes Poetry Prize issued by the Fellowship of Southern Writers, as well as the recipient of three PEN/Syndicated Fiction Awards, and the Dictionary of Literary Biography Award for the best volume of short stories published in 1999.

When asked what this prestigious award meant to her, Cherry said, "the Poet Laureate distinction is an honor, and I am proud to join my predecessors on this list."

"The position offers me an opportunity to spread the word about poetry in the Commonwealth of Virginia," Cherry said.

Cherry graduated from UMW with a Bachelor of Arts in Philosophy and has received the Distinguished Alumnus Award from the university.

Cherry did graduate work in philosophy at the University of Virginia and obtained a masters degree in fine arts from Univer-

sity of North Carolina at Greensboro.

In a recent press release, Cherry commented on the fact that being a resident of Virginia and alumna of UMW has had an impact on her writing.

"You look out the window and you see what you see," she wrote. "You listen to the language and you hear what you hear. And all of it goes into one's work."

According to the Library of Congress, this honorary position was first established in 1936, and in 1998 the Governor began appointing a poet from nominees that were submitted by the Poetry Society of Virginia.

This designation allowed the appointed poet to serve a two-year term without restrictions on reappointment. This position was created to help promote greater appreciation for poetry throughout Virginia.

## Pass/Fail Deadline Pondered

Faculty senate recommends student decision period extension

By THOMAS BOWMAN  
Staff Writer

The College of Arts and Sciences Faculty Senate passed a motion yesterday to extend the pass/fail deadline to align with the deadline for course withdrawal.

The University Faculty Committee, the highest governing level, will now consider the motion.

The considered motion would align the pass/fail deadline with the withdrawal deadline, giving struggling students the opportunity to continue in a course rather than withdrawing due to the threat of an eminent bad grade.

The motion did not pass without debate.

Mariam Liss, senator for the Department of Psychology, worried that extending the Pass/Fail deadline would encourage "grade shopping." Liss continued, stating, "Pass/fail should not be used to salvage a GPA."

Angela Pitts, associate professor of classics and faculty senate president elect said, "I personally support the motion, but I am aware that there are faculty that have legitimate concerns about the motion."

Pitts also wished to emphasize that the senators, acting as representatives, were not necessarily expressing their own opinions, but the opinions of their own departments.

Senior Ryan McClure commented on the motion, stating, "It's an interesting idea. It will allow students to avoid dropping classes as often."

McClure countered the opinion of the Psychology department, saying, "More classes will be taken pass/fail, but they still won't be able to do that on majors classes."

Fellow senior and student senator Mike Kappert, said "I fully support this decision, as I think it will give students the opportunity to get an accurate feel for the class before they are forced to switch to pass/fail."



Kelsey Mayo/Bullet

Commencement for the 2010 graduating class of the University of Mary Washington at Lee Hall.

## Fredericksburg Tree Cover Withers

By TORI WONG  
Staff Writer

Deforestation, a term often associated with distant developing countries, is a concept that Fredericksburg residents may be hearing about more frequently in the near future.

According to a 2010 report by the George Washington Regional Commission (GWRC), tree cover in Fredericksburg has declined 27 percent in the past 13 years due to population growth, development and construction projects throughout the region.

Deforestation is often cited as one of the major causes of the greenhouse effect linked to climate change because trees that are cut down no longer remove carbon dioxide, a known greenhouse gas, from the atmosphere. The greenhouse effect causes the atmosphere to trap more heat energy at the

Earth's surface and within the atmosphere.

The removal of forests allows for land to be developed for agriculture, development and construction, all necessary commodities to accommodate the region's growing population.

The GWRC reports that the George Washington Region, including Fredericksburg, Stafford, Caroline and King George counties, is the "region with the fastest growing population in Virginia for more than the last 20 years."

In its study, the GWRC compared the 1996 population and tree cover data with comparable 2009 data to determine land cover changes throughout the region.

The 13-year period shows that population continued to increase while tree cover contin-

TREES, page 9 ▶



Tori Wong/Bullet

A tree in Fredericksburg, modified to accommodate electric lines.

## Retraction

The *Bullet* incorrectly reported that the Board of Visitors had approved the demolition of Seacobeck Hall in a headline on our front page and in our online editions on Thursday, Jan. 27. That information was not in the article. The story itself inaccurately reported what Rick Hurley, the university president, said at a recent meeting about future plans for Seacobeck.

In fact, the University of Mary Washington is continuing to reassess plans for Seacobeck and a new dining facility. We apologize for such substantial errors. (Please see the Staff Editorial on Page 3.)

According to Hurley, Seacobeck has been pulled out of the Master Plan—a long-term program to redesign Mary Washington's campus—so that it can be addressed separately. The Master Plan will be put on hold until an historic preservation plan can be developed, ac-

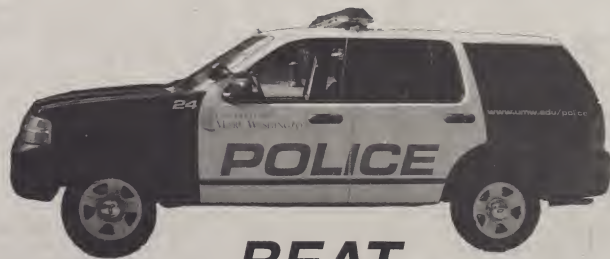
cording to university spokesman George Farrar.

Hurley said, "I have put plans in motion to have a representative body—that includes students, architects, historic preservation faculty, facilities representatives, and a representative from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources—thoroughly study all the issues and make recommendations that we can take to the Board of Visitors."

Hurley also sent an email campus-wide last Friday to correct the inaccurate reporting the *Bullet* about Seacobeck.

Additionally, it was the Executive Committee of the BOV that met on Jan. 22, not the full BOV, as reported incorrectly in the Jan. 27 story. It was also reported that the university is listed as an historic campus under the National Historic Register, when in fact it is merely eligible to be considered for the NHR.





## BEAT

By LINDLEY ESTES  
Staff Writer

Jan. 28: Between 12:15 p.m. and 12:51 p.m., police responded to reports of petit larceny at Simpson Library. A book was reported stolen. The case is pending.

Jan. 29: At 9:40 p.m., the UMW police responded to a report of grand larceny of a laptop computer from Russell Hall. The investigation is pending.

Jan. 30: Between 5:00 a.m. and 5:05 a.m., police responded to reports of vandalism at Eagle Landing. The investigation is pending.

Jan. 30: Fredericksburg police arrested a 20-year-old UMW student for public intoxication, trespassing and underage possession of alcohol.

Jan. 30: Fredericksburg police arrested a 19-year-old UMW student for urinating in public.

Jan. 30: Fredericksburg police arrested a 20-year-old UMW student for urinating in public and underage possession of alcohol.

Jan. 30: Fredericksburg police arrested a 20-year-old UMW student for public intoxication.

Jan. 30: Fredericksburg police arrested a 19-year-old UMW student for public intoxication, trespassing and underage possession of alcohol.

Jan. 31: Between midnight and 1:15 a.m., the UMW police responded to reports of vandalism at Eagle Landing. The investigation is pending.

This information was compiled with help from Assistant Vice President for Public Safety and Community Services Susan Knick, and Fredericksburg Police Department Public Information Officer Natatia Bledsoe.

## Religion Wanes Nationally As Student Interest Peaks

By BULLET STAFF

At a time when national studies reveal that fewer Americans are affiliated with a religion, more and more students in Virginia are lining up to major in the topic.

According to a study by the American Religious Identification Survey in 2009, the number of Americans who claim no religious affiliation has nearly doubled since 1990. However, the interest of students on many college campuses nationwide has shown an increase.

There are currently 26 declared religion majors and 91 declared majors in the Department of Classics, Philosophy, and Religion, a significant increase in students since the merger of the three departments, according to the UMW website. Because of the strength of UMW's religion major and the Department of CPR, classics professor Liane Houghtalin refers to the department as the "heartbeat of the university."

At the University of Mary Washington, the religion major is a part of the CPR. The three departments merged in 1979 due to "administrative efficiency," according to professor of religion David Cain. Cain feels that the academic study of religion, especially at UMW, is an essential part of understanding world culture, art and literature and is separate from spirituality and faith. The religion department offers a range of courses including Native American religions, Hebrew Bible, Religion in America and African American religions to name a few.

Since the merger of the departments, Cain has seen growth in faculty, budget and student interest in the religion major.

He is pleased with the growth of the major and the department, and hopes that the university is able to offer a greater diversity of religion courses in the future. In the 1990s, the department's faculty consisted of nine professors; there are now 13 professors and the budget has increased by \$255,000 to \$1,186,383 in the

past year alone according to the UMW website.

Danielle Rosenberg, a senior at Mary Washington, said, "I chose the religion major freshman year after taking a class with Dr. Cain—I liked the way he forced you to think and I liked the fact that it was very abstract but that the field could also be taken to a more concrete focus: to history."

Rosenberg said she is currently studying Abrahamic religions and is doing her senior thesis on Elie Wiesel, a Holocaust survivor and significant figure in the Jewish community today.

Junior Deztinie Carter feels the classes offered in the religion major are the most interesting on campus.

"This semester I'm taking African American Religions and

*I liked the fact that it was very abstract but that the field could also be taken to a more concrete focus: to history.*

--Danielle Rosenberg

The World of Early Christianity, and I've learned so much," Carter said. "I truly enjoy going to those classes."

Dr. Lori Underwood, head of the philosophy and religious studies department at Christopher Newport University, expressed her confidence that the decline in nation-wide religious affiliation has not affected students on her campus.

"We are so diverse on our campus, our department has an open and tolerant appreciation for all religions," Underwood said.

She does not feel that there is tension between students of different religious backgrounds, and that the numbers reflected in the national religion study does not affect any school-wide devotion to religion.

At CNU, the Philosophy and Religious studies departments have merged, making philoso-

phy the primary major, and religious studies a possible choice for a concentration. Religious studies covers a wide field of religion, including Christianity, Judaism and Islam, as well as many others.

When asked about the number enrolled with this particular concentration, Underwood was unable to state a specific number but said, "the concentration in religious studies is a substantial concentration. The overall majority [of students majoring in philosophy] is in religious studies."

Underwood is happy with the overall participation and enthusiasm of her students and is confident that the numbers on campus do not reflect those in the study that showed that 68 percent of the U.S. people view religion as "losing influence in American society."

"There has been a growth in the number of our majors over the past years. I would expect an increase in interest [over the next decade]," Underwood said.

Professor John Morreall, Chair of the Religious Studies Department at the College of William and Mary, agrees that the interest in religion on W&M's campus has not decreased. W&M has about 50 religion major students this year.

The number varies slightly from year to year, but it is pretty consistent, Morreall said.

"Nationally there are a number of people who are less and less happy with their individual churches, mosques, etc., I see that's what [the national religion study] reflects. Our students come from fairly traditional families of Christianity, Judaism and Islam."

Morreall added that the decline of national interest in religion or religious affiliation has not affected the interest in religious studies on his campus.

Morreall feels that the overall enthusiasm for studies in most religious fields is increasing.

"Religion has gotten more important, especially since the Middle East issues. [It is] a more popular major than it was 20 years ago," said Morreall.

### A Personal Story of Religious Discovery



Marie Sicola/Bullet

By JESSICA MASULLI  
and KIRSTEN MORGAN  
Staff Writer

Amanda Keller, a senior Mary Washington student, was always a self-described bitter atheist. However, her time at Mary Washington has changed that label to open-minded Christian.

"It got to the point where my atheism became too overwhelming," Keller said.

After struggling with her atheism, Keller began to become more interested in Christianity. She decided to start right at the source: the Bible.

After reading the entire Bible and starting to pray, Keller began to search for a more formal setting to study religion.

However, after joining two campus ministries, she realized that her homosexuality would not fit nicely

with these groups. But this did not stop her.

She has since begun a different type of quest to understand "the richness of the spiritual world."

She now has read the Bible, Bhagavad Gita, Upanishad and Dhammapada, on a path of reading every holy book.

"At this point, I can look at religion from every perspective. I can see that all of the religions are equally ridiculous and equally wonderful," Keller said.

This entire process has now led her to take religion courses while doing a screenplay on the perceptions of Jesus for an individual study.

"Most of all, I've been left with this intense interest in other people's religious experiences, in their conversion stories," Keller said.

Arlene Battis, active member in the Jewish Community in Northern Virginia, belongs to the synagogue Olam Tikvah. Battis stressed the fact that religious interest is on the rise, citing the major renovation doubling the

*Religion has gotten more important, especially since the Middle Eastern issues.*

--John Morreall

size of her "shul," a synagogue, in order to accommodate the influx of members.

Islamic Student Association, on UMW's campus, has seen a

huge increase of participation and attendance in the past five years, said Drema Khraibani, president of ISA.

"[Participation] in ISA has increased since my freshman year," said senior Adil Quraish and active member of the ISA. "I myself was not very active, but now I am active, I am an example of an increase in trend of people who are embracing Islam."

The Jewish Student Association on the UMW campus has also seen an increase in participation in their group, according to Mandi Solomon, Co-President of JSA/Hillel.

Solomon predicts that participation, "will increase as long as leadership can keep planning events that are campus wide and

well-known."

The Catholic Campus Ministry on UMW's campus also has a very active group of student participants each week.

"There's not really a set number of students in our group, since we have many different events through the week and a building that students are free to come in and out of as they please. I'd guess that there are about 60 students who come around regularly," according to Teresa Yao, CCM President.

Yao has only been a part of the UMW community for a few years but she is confident that the size of the CCM group has grown over the past few years.

By Gianni Bellini, Kathryn Flench, Kathleen Higgins, Melanie Rossignol

## University Aims for Top Graduation Standing

GRADUATE, page 1

portunity for self-discovery that takes place over the course of UMW's liberal arts program enables students to find majors that interest them and subsequent careers to pursue.

"The larger schools below us cannot spend the time to work with any individual student to get their needs met," Harper said.

Alumni cited small class sizes, a wide variety of extracurricular options, proximity to major cities and a friendly at-

mosphere as reasons for why they succeeded at UMW.

"Mary Wash just offers a really welcoming community that's just a good place for people who really want a well-rounded education," Kristen Tymeson, a 2010 alumna, said.

Tymeson graduated with a bachelor's degree in international affairs. She now works for the Department of State in the Office of Global Women's Issues, while also completing a master's degree in international development studies at George Washington University.

Tymeson appreciated the ability to get to know her peers at UMW, especially those in her major, and the university's proximity to Washington, D.C.

The small class sizes and personal relationships with professors were some of the most influential factors for Audrey Westmoreland, a 2010 alumna, who graduated a semester early with a bachelor's degree in anthropology.

"From my experience, I really appreciated the professors' willingness to work one-on-one with students and their attentive-

ness," she said.

Westmoreland is currently trying to pick a focus in archaeology to continue her education in graduate school.

One of the most effective ways to raise the graduation rate is to give students easy accessibility to the tools they need to keep track of their requirements.

Currently, the school website offers a degree evaluation function under the student records section of EagleNet that enables students to view which of their required courses they have completed and which remain unful-

filled.

Harper hopes to promote this information and make it even more accessible to students, as one of the stumbling blocks students often encounter that can delay graduation is misinformation or miscommunications about requirements.

Still, the results may not be immediate.

"Things you put into place today won't have an impact for several years," Harper said.

The university is also constantly looking into new majors that it can offer, according to

Harper.

Students that start at UMW but discover that their true passions lie in areas of study not offered by the university transfer to other schools. These students count against UMW's graduation rate, even though they are frequently going on to graduate elsewhere.

"The long-term goal is to be number one," Harper said. "The president and I have a plan for UMW to be the best public liberal arts university in the country."



# Viewpoints

## The Bullet Apologizes for Seacobeck Error

Last week, the *Bullet* incorrectly reported in a front-page headline that the Mary Washington Board of Visitors had voted to demolish Seacobeck Hall. In fact, President Rick Hurley had merely decided to pull Seacobeck from the Master Plan and form a committee of students, faculty and preservation experts to recommend a plan of action regarding the future of the dining facility to the BOV.

This regrettable error, which was not the fault of any single person but rather the result of oversights on the part of several editors, did an enormous amount of damage to the school administration's attempts to engage the UMW community regarding the Master Plan and the future of the university.

We would like to offer a sincere apology to the BOV, President Hurley and any other member of the UMW community who trusted the *Bullet* to report the news accurately, particularly on an issue

are an inevitable consequence of any kind of journalism, whether it's produced by professionals or students, but to commit one of this magnitude is inexcusable and not representative at all of the standards that we hold ourselves to at the *Bullet*.

The exchange of accurate, reliable information is a necessary component for dialogue between the

administration and the UMW community, and when we fail to meet that standard of accuracy, we fail the community that we serve.

We want to assure our readership, which has come to expect better from the *Bullet*, that we are only going to strive harder in the future to ensure that this kind of mistake does not happen again.

as sensitive to our readership as the proposed renovation of our university's historic buildings.

Although we corrected the story immediately on our website, and Hurley sent out a campus-wide e-mail alerting students and faculty to the error, the damage was already done, clearly visible on newsstands all over campus.

To some degree, mistakes

## Staff Editorial

## Letter to the Editor:

*Administration needs to rethink attitude on commuters missing class for inclement weather*

Dear Editor,

Perhaps it is time for UMW to reconsider its protocol for making inclement weather decisions. The storm on Wednesday, Jan. 26 came roaring in right about 3 p.m., and UMW did not close until 6 p.m.—no help to the commuting students already in their classes.

I disagree with the administration's notion, found in "Fatal Car Accidents Prompt Concerns About Snow Policy" that if a commuting student feels it is unsafe to travel that they should simply make arrangements with their instructor.

That is not always possible and leaves the door open to "well, if you don't make it to class then you just get a zero." I don't think profes-

sors want to be put in this situation anymore than commuting students.

UMW is primarily a residential institution. However, UMW is changing and the number of commuting students is increasing. Because commuters are a minority, does this mean that our safety (and also that of commuting instructors) is any less important than residential students?

I understand it is a juggling act to find the right balance. If the decision on Jan. 26 is any indication of an improvement—well, this sure wasn't better.

Sincerely,  
Kathie Belrose-Ramey

## Transfer Students Lose Expensive Credit Hours

By ANDREA FORCUM  
Staff Writer

Each year students transfer into the University of Mary Washington and unwittingly lose credit hours, or do not get them transferred as major credit, but rather as elective credits.

On the UMW website it states that, "As a general rule, transfer credit is granted for courses of the same type (liberal arts and sciences), on the same level, and taught under the same general guidelines as University of Mary Washington courses."

However, this general rule seems only to apply when it is

most convenient. If any real legwork is required to qualify or disqualify the classes, it seems that it is no longer their responsibility, but the responsibility of the incoming student.

Let me qualify this by saying UMW has done an exemplary job working with local community colleges in transferring credits as "Major" requirement qualified. They do have an appeal process for the classes that were deemed "elective" or simply were disqualified from being counted as a transferrable course.

When asked how her course transfers went, Sarah Perrin, a

transfer student from West Virginia University, said, "Most of it transferred as electives rather than what I took it as at WVU."

If a student would like to appeal the credit decision, then they must fill out a page-long form and write a short essay of how it applies to UMW's course guidelines. In addition, a syllabus for the disputed course needs to be provided.

The transfer students do not just lose credits, but money. Out-of-state students, who are also the more likely ones to have issues with credit transferring, pay upwards of \$9,000 per semester.

Each credit decision is an expensive decision. Is it unfair to expect a school to do some legwork for students who could be paying close to \$20,000 for annual tuition?

There is no question that some credits do not meet the qualifications for transfer. However, it seems that the status quo is to accept as little transfer credits as possible.

It would be a bigger incentive if the school did a little more work during the appeal process. Then, maybe more students would transfer into a new opportunity, rather than into more loan debt.



Marie Nicola/Bullet

A UMW student waits at the Registrar's Office, where students go to have transfer credits approved.



### WANTED:

**The *Bullet* needs more cartoonists**

If you're interested, send your submissions to [umwbulet@gmail.com](mailto:umwbulet@gmail.com)

## Competitive Spirit Ignited by Childhood Trauma

I think I might be too competitive.

No matter how seemingly inconsequential the contest or how non-existent the prize, if I've found a challenge to beat, I can't stop until I win.

My general apathy towards life often outweighs my need to win because I can usually convince myself of how meaningless everything is. However, when I am overcome with the desire to compete, things get ugly—fast.

In Kindergarten, for example, I had no interest in learning to read until I decided that I had to be the first one in my class to get through all of the levels in our reading books.

I wasn't a bully, but I did get a lesson on when it's appropriate to let everyone know you're smarter than they are (According to Mrs. Bass, the answer is never, but she was obviously a liar).

It's not my fault, though. I suffered trauma at an early age, and it changed

me forever. Like any good 21-year-old girl with no real problems, there is only one person to blame for my issues—my father.

When I was but a naïve four-year-old, full of hope and still unaware of how cruel people can be to the ones

they love, I received the board game Pretty Princess.

I challenged my dad to a friendly match, assuming he would humor me and play along while I collected the different pieces of jewelry

I needed to become the pretty, pretty princess.

It was discovered that afternoon that I inherited my father's arrogance and tendency to shamelessly taunt his opponents. Things got nasty as insults were slung while jewelry was collected.

Tension was high as we neared the end of the game.

In order to win, a player must collect all of the pieces of jewelry in his or her

designated color, as well as the Pretty Princess crown. I had everything except my necklace, but I was positioned to get it on my next turn.

I even had the crown.

My dad spun the wheel. All he

### Thought You Knew



By Jordan Kroll  
Columnist

needed was the crown—my crown—to win the whole game.

I prayed he'd land on the black ring instead, prohibiting him from winning for as long as it was in his possession.

He landed on a space that granted him permission to steal whatever he

wanted from another player in the game.

I was the only other player.

I offered him any of my other jewelry. I accused him of cheating and made him count the spaces again. I begged him to take anything but the plastic gray crown resting atop my brown curls.

He ignored my pleas and reached across the game board.

He took my crown.

Do you know what it's like to see victory dangling before your eyes, only to have it snatched away by a greedy man prancing around the living room chanting "I'm the Pretty Pretty Princess," as his four-year-old daughter sobbed uncontrollably?

Do you know what that's like?

Once the tears dried and the pieces of plastic jewelry I threw in a fit of rage were cleaned up, I realized what an important lesson I'd learned.

If you're going to play a game, you better be in it to win it.

I shouldn't have expected my dad to let me win. We live in a harsh world full of people who are dying to steal our crowns and laugh at our failures. I'm just glad I learned this at an early age.

Luckily, at this point in my life, I don't do anything that calls for such fierce competition, like sports or caring about school. I channel my occasional intensity into drinking games and personal challenges I make for my own amusement.

The only problem is that these instances are becoming more and more frequent.

Almost every week I find a new challenge to present to myself, and I'm pretty sure no one appreciates how heated I get during games that rely solely on luck.

Just to be clear, I don't think there's anything wrong with a competitive spirit, but when your personal challenges start to drift into "Cruel Intentions" territory and everyone you're playing the drinking game with has turned against you because you wouldn't stop heckling them, it might be time to re-evaluate your commitment to the game.

Blame my dad.

If he'd let me be the Pretty Pretty Princess, I probably wouldn't be such a dick about everything.

### Letter and Editorial Policy

The *Bullet* is always eager to receive letters to the editor and guest columns, and every effort is made to print them.

Letters should be submitted the Monday before publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words, and columns should not exceed 700 words.

We will not publish anonymous submissions. Letters must include a phone number and address for purposes of verification. They can be mailed to the *Bullet* at 1701 College Avenue, Fredericksburg, VA, 22401-4666, delivered to our office in Seacobeck Hall or sent to our e-mail at [umwbulet@gmail.com](mailto:umwbulet@gmail.com).

Opinions expressed in columns or letters to the editor do not necessarily reflect the views of the staff. Contact the *Bullet* at 540-654-1133.

the  
**Bullet**

Editor in Chief  
**Ryan Marr**

Associate Editor  
**Jessica Masulli**

Serving the University of  
Mary Washington  
Community since 1922.

Managing Editor: Heather Brady  
News Editor: Lindley Estes  
News Editor: Sarah Smith  
Viewpoints Editor: Thomas Bowman  
Entertainment Editor: Thomas Ella  
Features Editor: Jordan Kroll  
Sports Editor: Zach Moretti  
Business Manager: Kathryn Christian  
Finance Manager: Matt Baker  
Online Editor: Dave Gallagher  
Video Editor: Elsa Lee  
Photography Editor: Marie Nicola  
Adviser: Michael McCarthy

Assistant News Editor: Frances Womble  
Assistant Viewpoints Editor: Brian Auricchio  
Assistant Entertainment Editor: Joshua Lawson  
Assistant Entertainment Editor: Kyle Shearin  
Assistant Features Editor: Lauren Olsen  
Assistant Sports Editor: Nick Nelson

The *Bullet* is published on Thursday afternoons during the fall and spring semesters. All decisions are made by the editorial board, independent of the *Bullet* adviser.



# Viewpoints



## Opposing Viewpoints



### In Push For Higher Diversity, Risk of Lowering Standards

By CALVIN SHERWOOD  
Political Columnist

It is a well-known fact that all universities try to outdo each other to attract more students. For some, location is more important, and for still others, it's the academics. Increasingly for UMW, it seems that another pull factor is a sense of diversity that makes UMW unique. While diversity adds variety, it must not come at the cost of our academic standards.

Despite this concern, diversity seems to be an increasingly important factor. For prospective students, it is yet another aspect to consider when they choose a college.

For its part, UMW has enthusiastically embraced this new push to diversify and is constantly paving the way for new policies to help change the face of the school to look more mixed.

Many have applauded its efforts as sincere chances to break the old stereotypes and indeed, new experiences do bring about chances to learn and expand academic horizons.

UMW has done a good job at diversifying quickly, but it needs to be aware of what's changing and how much of its old identity it wants to let go. Not only that, but some of the school policies to diversify have brought mixed reviews.

The class of 2014 has the most ethnically diverse student body in the history of the school, but it also had a lower GPA than previous years.

This makes diversification a somewhat bittersweet process, because it will be hard to maintain a highly admired academic reputation when it appears the standards are eroding.

As if that wasn't enough, most people still have a picture of UMW as a lily-white school, and this push to look more diverse hasn't changed that.

Reputations and old views die hard. If UMW wants to make diversity more of a priority, it is going to take more time and more funding: funding that would probably be coming from another part of the school budget.

Such an overhaul of our school identity should lead to some soul-searching before it moves any further. Feedback from students should be assessed and taken into account, for the current population might have some useful insight as to how they view their school that the administration missed. They usually do.

Furthermore, it is possible to maintain a diverse student body while also maintaining a competitive GPA. UMW must not have to sacrifice one to have the other, as diversity usually brings new ideas and intelligence that should manifest itself in a strong GPA or at least a continuation of superior academic standards.

Therefore, if UMW remains focused on improving its academic reputation, it would become a more perfect beacon of liberal arts excellence for many incoming students; something that would inherently bring diversity in itself.

### Increasing Diversity on Campus More Important Than Academics

By BRIAN AURICCHIO  
Political Columnist

The University of Mary Washington accepts applicants each year that might not meet university academic standards but fulfill a quota in the diversity count. These students from minority backgrounds are accepted on the premise that their circumstances may have curtailed their potential, and our university accepts these facts of social reality in America.

These are necessary steps in a nation that has a poor history of social equality.

The American Dream has always been one of upward mobility. With a personal work ethic, one can achieve a comfortable

standard of living. Yet, according to the *Washington Post*, black unemployment hovers around 17 percent, while the national average stagnates around 10 percent. Can we attribute these differences to the work ethic of a specific race?

The answer is no.

Regarding social equality, Republicans tend to take what Harvard Professor Cornel West calls a "conservative-behaviorist" approach. This approach praises self-help programs that operate within the free market.

To put it simply, conservatives would rather help blacks start businesses than enact affirmative action or welfare measures.

The first problem with this

approach is its blatant disregard for the victimization of minorities in America. Conservatives emphasize minority cultural be-

*This diversity is a necessary social pillar, and if lowering academic standards to acquire such an environment is necessary, then that is what the university should do.*

havior as the major obstacle to minority progress. Circumstance is dismissed, as if the preservation of racial ghettos is by personal choice.

At the University of Mary

Washington, 15 percent of the student body comes from minority groups. Diversity is essential to creating an environment that undermines homogeneity and accepts difference. This will ultimately heal America's scar of racial indignity, with affirmative action progressing toward this goal.

This diversity is a necessary social pillar, and if lowering academic standards to acquire such an environment is necessary, then that is what the university should do. Those who claim we are surrendering the academic integrity of this school, find another solution.

These methods instill values that prevent discrimination and praise inclusiveness, which is a necessary skill outside of university life. These are values that can lead to a comfortable work environment, and even increase productivity.

These environments also bring to the forefront different experiences and ideas. Middle-class white students might not reexamine their proposals if people with similar backgrounds and experiences surround them. The play of differences allows for a more creative and productive environment. This is the environment that should be cultivated on campus, which is why lowering the standards, for minority students, is essential to academic success.

The fact is, every human being shares 99.9 percent of the same DNA. Until every American realizes this, affirmative action is a necessary stepping stone to racial equality.



Students in Framar, where the International Living Community is located.

### Day Spent Abroad Leads to Stairs of Montmartre

By ANNE ELDER  
Staff Writer

A quick walk down my street landed me in the Paris red light district as I went on a search to find Montmartre, a famous sec-



The stairs of Montmartre.

tion of Paris.

Even at noon on a Sunday, neon signs advertising lingerie in all forms (latex and leather included), adult videos and blow-up dolls lit up the street, with peep shows waiting behind every curtain.

I kept walking and eventually those signs turned into tourist shops. Eiffel Tower key chains, mini-statues, scarves, and bags filled the generally overpriced stores, with foreign tourists from all over fighting to get inside.

Thankfully, I saw the sign for "Butte Montmartre," which I knew would lead me to the Sacré Cœur. Fighting my way through

the crowds of foreigners, I landed on a cobblestone street with more shops, more tourists, and men performing magic tricks in the middle.

I walked up the hill amid the luring smells of crepes and found my destination: the stairs of Montmartre.

Most people go to Sacré Cœur for the view and the historic church. All I really wanted to do was climb the stairs. When I started walking, they didn't seem so intimidating.

Halfway through though, I pretended to stop to take pictures, but really I was stopping to catch my breath. I may have been a little overzealous when I started running up the stairs—which I wouldn't recommend for the first time.

As I finally reached the top, a man shoved a clipboard and pen in my face. All I wanted to do was finish climbing the stairs, so anyone in my way automatically made me angry. I finally pushed my way past him and looked for a place without a mob of people.

I took a few pictures, and then decided to descend the stairs to walk around Montmartre more. At the bottom, there were men waiting for tourists with strings to tie around their wrists and then charge them for it. Luckily, I had already been warned about these "vendors"—I use the term loosely—in my French literature class last year, so I knew to avoid them at all costs.

In any other circumstance, I would have told them I'm not a tourist and brushed them off. However, they would have heard my accent, and it's not very convincing to say you aren't a tourist on a Sunday afternoon at the Sacré Cœur with a big camera. So, I pushed them off me without a word and kept walking.

I didn't want to walk through the mobbed street again, so I headed down to Rue de Trois Frères, a street nearby. The only people walking had groceries, the shops and restaurants were calm, and everyone was speak-



ing French. I had found Montmartre.

Intrigued by a little shop on the street, I wandered in and the saleswoman asked (in English) if she could help me. I replied in French, and even though she could tell I wasn't French she continued to speak to me in French. It was nice for once for someone to understand and not speak to me in English—also I

think she appreciated my effort.

At this point, I had accomplished what I set out to. I now know where to go in Montmartre to avoid crowds and that you can find really great deals without succumbing to Gallérie Lafayette or Printemps, the two major department stores in Paris.

Better yet, I found Paris' built-in stairmaster.

### After Vick Controversy, Time to Move On

By MATT GELLER  
Staff Writer

After an amazing season with the Philadelphia Eagles, embattled quarterback Michael Vick started in his fourth Pro Bowl this past weekend. However, there are still many Americans who don't like Michael Vick and don't want him to continue playing in the NFL.

In April 2007, Vick was the quarterback for the Atlanta Falcons and one of the best-paid players in the NFL when details

began to emerge about his role in the running and funding of an illegal dog-fighting operation called "Bad Newz Kennels" near his home in Virginia.

He was sentenced to 23 months in Leavenworth Prison and is on probation until November 2012.

According to the *San Francisco Chronicle*, nearly 40 percent of people polled don't think he should be allowed to play in the NFL. For the second year in a row, Vick topped "Forbes Magazine's" list of the most dis-

liked sports figures, with 69 percent of people polled stating that they disliked him.

His Twitter account was frozen after being harassed and insulted, and the blogosphere consistently lambastes and denigrates him. One blogger, named Sumo Pop, recently compared Vick to Donte Stallworth, a football player who drunkenly ran down a man with his car, killing him. Pop wrote, "I can give Stallworth a break more easily than I can Vick."

The courts gave Stallworth

community service, house arrest, probation and a 30-day sentence, of which he served 24.

It is depressing to think that we have come to a point where we consider the lives of animals to be more precious and important than those of humans. It is even more depressing to think that we have grown so cynical that we refuse to accept a man who has genuinely repented for his crimes.

Together with the Humane Society of the United States,

VICK, page 11



Courtesy of the Ed Yourdon/Twitter

Michael Vick, quarterback for the Philadelphia Eagles, runs the football against the New York Jets.



# Entertainment

## ‘Palooza For Hunter’: A Concert for a Cause

By ALEX VAN BEEK  
Staff Writer

At the King George Citizen’s Center on Jan. 21, four bands and a solo act came together in a musical extravaganza called “Palooza For Hunter.”

It was put together for Hunter Pitts, a local who tragically lost control during a motorcycle race and as a result damaged parts of his brain. About six months after the accident, Hunter is recovering at an incredible rate, but with new treatments come more medical expenses. That’s where “Palooza” comes in.

Johnny in June started the night, but I unfortunately was only able to catch the tail-end of their performance.

“Palooza For Hunter” was this band’s first gig, and from what I saw of their performance, they certainly did a respectable job. They played covers of punk staples “Blitzkrieg Bop” and “Punk Rock Girl” as well as a few songs from the Cure including “Just Like Heaven.”

I got the feeling that these guys were nervous, but channeled their nerves into their playing a successful solid set.

Next up were the Cosmonauts, another band whose first public performance was at “Palooza.”

Both members of this group are students at UMW with sophomore Lonnie Southall on guitar and senior Michael Terlecki on drums. Their set consisted of more originals than covers with a particular stand-out being “Work It Out.”



Alex Van Beek/Bullet

Who Took Fred? really went all out with their performance at Palooza For Hunter.

Southall and Terlecki played off each other quite well, playing covers that focused on the duo aspect of their band, such as “Set You Free” by the Black Keys and “Fell In Love With A Girl” by the White Stripes.

“Lonnie Southall changed my life,” said freshman Charlotte Hagerman. All in all, the Cosmonauts had a great debut and are worth checking out.

“Good morning America. Today’s weather: very hot on stage,” said Austin Miller, guitarist of the band Who Took Fred?, about half-way through his entirely acoustic solo set.

Miller certainly worked up a sweat during his half-hour set as a result of his energetic stage presence. He jumped around and danced emphatically on stage whenever he wasn’t singing.

His performance consisted entirely of originals, with him playing all of the songs off his recently released acoustic album, “Junk Tracks.” His high-caliber set truly impressed.

The next act, Toxic Dropkick, was a departure from the other bands that played at the “Palooza” both in genre and in quality. As their set consisted entirely of metal songs, their lead singer

at one point told the audience, “if you don’t like this style of music, just get down with it.”

Favoring playing loudly over sound quality, Toxic Dropkick’s songs consisted of prolonged periods of screaming punctuated by guitars that stood out only when they stopped playing power chords.

While I am certainly not the biggest metal fan, I can at least tolerate it, but Toxic Dropkick took unlistenable to a whole new level.

For the people that stuck around, Who Took Fred?, led by front man Lonnie Southall, put on a fantastic show.

Starting off with an interesting riff on the “Lord of the Rings” theme, the band took off into several of their original compositions.

Songs like “Delusions of Grandeur” and “Out For Me” caught the crowd’s attention with their upbeat rhythms, powerful vocals and solid drumming that insured the band did not go too overboard.

Who Took Fred?’s originals were the highlight of their performance, and I hope they continue to build a bigger repertoire. The ending to “School of Rock” was a nice touch and wrapped up the night with a sense of aplomb.

Having raised \$564 by the end of the night, it is hard not to call “Palooza For Hunter” anything but a success.

The bands that performed over the course of the night ranged in both genre and talent, and as a result created what was certainly a memorable event for all in attendance.

## Cage the Elephant Avoids The Sophomore Slump

By KYLE SHEARIN  
Staff Writer

There’s something faintly comforting in Cage The Elephant’s sound, especially if you pine for the days that you could hear Beck, Radiohead, and The Beastie Boys in a 10-minute span on a rock station.

While most of today’s rock radio is filled with hunger-hunger bands who owe more to the Pearl Jam, Cage The Elephant have always been closer to Blur’s backwood cousins.

It’s probably not a coincidence the band had a bigger following across the pond before their debut landed in stores in the U.S. two years ago, where it found modest success with the hit “Ain’t No Rest For The Wicked.”

Cage The Elephant’s debut mixed punk, blues, garage rock and some Brit-Pop for good measure, and for the most part things haven’t changed too drastically on their follow-up, “Thank You, Happy Birthday.”

There are no obvious stand-outs, but there are a few clunkers on here. “Shake Me Down” may not initially seem like most obvious choice a single, but quickly becomes one of the most likable offerings on the album.

The bitter spittle of the somewhat conceptual “Indy Kidz” almost throws

the record off as the band singles out naysayers for not being authentic enough to be cool. This may have been a good throwaway bonus track, but sadly sticks out like a sore thumb in the context of the rest of the album.

While “Thank You, Happy Birthday” certainly has some good songs but knowing their influences can be a bit of a problem. In fact, it was hard not to want to go back and revisit the bands Cage The Elephant takes their cues from after listening to a few tracks.

I’m positive “Aberdeen” is a fast version of “Where Is My Mind” by the Pixies, with different lyrics to match the speedier tempo. In fact, vocalist Mathew Shultz sounds incredibly like Frank Black on the track.

The record has prettier moments like on “Rubber Ball” which sounds like a lullaby that shows off Shultz’s range as a vocalist. The track is a perfect example of how, when things work for the group, they work well.

Rounding out the record is “Right Before Your Eyes,” a nice little ballad that actually isn’t slow.

I wouldn’t call “Thank You, Happy Birthday” a sophomore slump, but the album is experienced best in its entirety, rather than song by song.



## SUPER Sudoku

A special Sudoku puzzle for you jaded veterans out there: instead of just fitting the numbers 1-9 in each box and row, this week’s puzzle includes letters. That’s right. Letters. So match up 1-9 and A-G in each box and row.

		1	4		C	B		3	6		
D	3								4		9
6	C		4		D	3	E	2		G	F
G	E			7	A	6	1	4	C		B
E	5	B								2	D
		G	8	D	9			6	2	1	C
		F			3	7	D	4			8
3				E	6			9	G		
1				5	2			B	9		E
		7		8		D	4		F		5
		D	F	A	1			3	G	4	7
5	A	9								G	6
B	4			G	3	8	F	C	1		A
8	1		G		A	2	9	5		B	7
F		C								3	G
		5		F			9	G		E	1

To check your answers, go to [umwbulet.com/sudoku](http://umwbulet.com/sudoku).

## 2011 Foreign Film Series Combs 139 @ 7:30 pm



### February 7: Hero (Chinese)

In ancient China warring factions amongst the six kingdoms of the country conspired to assassinate the movie’s powerful ruler, Gin. A minor official with no name defeats all three warriors sent to kill the ruler. Gin invites him to tell the story in this lush and beautifully crafted martial arts epic.



## Bullet Points

Thursday,  
February, 3

• **Movie Trivia Night:** Lights! Camera! Action! Trivia! In what movie did Denzel Washington yell, “King Kong ain’t got shit on me”? Not sure? Look it up, then get to the Underground at 8 p.m. for more movie knowledge.

Friday,  
February, 4

• **Saul Williams:** Some use paint to make art. Saul Williams uses words. For some beautiful wordplay, come to Dodd Auditorium at 7 p.m.

• **Ronnie Jordan:** In these tough economic times, laughs are hard to come by. That is, unless you go to the Underground at 8 p.m.

• **Undeniably Adjacent:** Turns out laughs aren’t that hard to come by, today at least. Combs 237 at 8 p.m. for some improv hilarity.

Saturday,  
February 5

• **Schmekel:** Have you ever heard an all-Jewish, all-transgender, polka-punk band? I sure haven’t, which is precisely why I’m so pumped to see Schmekel rock the effing house down in the Underground at 8 p.m.

• **Cheap Seats:** ‘The Next Three Days,’ which our review calls “a thriller that is anything but thrilling,” is playing in Dodd Auditorium at 7 p.m. for \$1. ‘Due Date,’ which is actually worth the dollar, is playing at 10 p.m.

Sunday,  
February 6

• **Cheap Seats:** For a third and final chance to see ‘The Next Three Days’ for \$1, come to Dodd Auditorium at 2 p.m.

Monday,  
February 7

• **Hoops Night:** We like sports and we don’t care who knows, from shooting hoops to the Super Bowl. Join your fellow jocks in the Underground at 7 p.m. to watch Pittsburgh vs. West Virginia, and at 9 p.m. to watch Missouri vs. Kansas.

Tuesday,  
February 8

• **Locos Por Juana:** Get a little Latin fusion in your life at the Underground at 8 p.m. for a hopping fiesta. Definitely not a night to miss.

Wednesday,  
February 9

• **Jimmy Eat World:** We’ve finally arrived. Jimmy Eat World plays Dodd Auditorium at 7 p.m. Get tickets at OSACS for \$10.

Send Bullet Points to [tella@mail.umw.edu](mailto:tella@mail.umw.edu).



# Entertainment

## 'Blue Valentine': A Depressing Work of Art

By **MARSHALL SCHULTE**  
Staff Writer

"Blue Valentine" represents the antithesis of our cultural expectation for relationships in film. By that I mean that it's the opposite of the traditional American romance movie.

The real question is if this translates to it being a good film. And in all respects, it is a great film. Maybe even a masterpiece. But not a happy one.

The film is about the beginning and the end of the marriage between Cindy (Michelle Williams) and Dean (Ryan

Gosling), jumping back and forth between the two time periods spanning about seven years. There's not much more to the plot than that.

It's a movie that no one can really spoil for you. That's because this is a purely character-driven movie, and it really doesn't matter that there's no intricate plot-line going on.

For this to work, the acting needs to be incredible, and it is. Both Gosling and Williams play their characters as believably as possible. It felt like someone actually filmed the lives of these characters and was showing it to me.

When their relationship first starts, it's sweet, and I felt genuinely happy for them. In the later time period, the two look older, and act like they've been through a lot together. Unfortunately, neither of them are in love with each other anymore, and it shows. They both try, but you can tell that they know the truth.

But nothing, as far as long-term relationships are concerned, is as difficult as ending things, and both of them wrestle with that in their own way. In a sense, when the credits rolled, I knew just about everything there was to know about Cindy and Dean, and I don't know that I can say that about many other stories, especially one packed into two hours.

I walked out of the theater not really knowing what to do with my life.

This is typically a sign that I just beheld a great story, and that was partly the case here, but I would be lying if I told you that was the only reason.

First of all: this is a depressing movie, and you should know this before watching. I don't want a new couple going in thinking it'll be a romance, then leave thinking that maybe this whole dating thing was a bad idea.

Second: I felt a little nauseous after all was said and done. I attribute this to the cinematography, where it seemed

like the camera was uncomfortably close to the characters, particularly during the sex scenes.

The camera's proximity to the actors reflects the audience's own relation to these characters and the focus the story has on them; we know everything about these people, good and bad.

In particular, the scene that likely made me nauseous was a sex scene where the camera positioned itself a few inches away from one of the characters' faces. This character was not making a happy face.

Thematically, "Blue Valentine" does

not seem to hold any hope for relationships. No example of a long, healthy relationship is evident anywhere in the film, which made me think that it was trying to tell me that good relationships are an impossibility.

Maybe though, it's not meant to be analyzed for some sort of meaning, but is instead simply a story, nothing more, nothing less.

It is with this in mind that I recommend you watch "Blue Valentine". Otherwise, you may leave wondering if anything is worth it at all.



courtesy of daemonsmovies.com

Ryan Gosling gives a breathtaking performance as Dean.



courtesy of ramascreeen.com

Michelle Williams was nominated for an Oscar for her role.

## Cheap Seats Double-Header

*'The Next Three Days' tries too hard and ends up falling flat*

By **COLEMAN CLARK**  
Staff Writer

Russell Crowe and Elizabeth Banks star in "The Next Three Days," a thriller that is anything but thrilling.

The writer and director, Paul Haggis, clearly has it in him to create fantastic films, having "Million Dollar Baby," "Crash," and "Casino Royale" to his credit.

Perhaps the movie just didn't translate well from the lesser-known French original "Pour Elle" ("Anything for Her").

Crowe and Banks play a happily married couple whose world is turned upside down after she is convicted of murder and sentenced to hard time in prison.

After three years of failed attempts to free his wife through the legal system, Crowe decides to take matters into his own hands.

You have to hand it to Russell Crowe, even when he is in an obviously sinking ship of a movie, he still commits himself fully to the role.

Even when his character's dialogue and actions are unrealistic (which is a problem with the writing, not Crowe himself) he's at least believable.

Maybe it was the three years without seeing her family, or a mirror for that matter (apparently they don't let you touch up your highlights behind bars), but Banks' character just comes off as morose and whiny.

She is not her usual charming self, but rather a sad lump, that doesn't even make you wonder, or care,

whether she is guilty or not.

"The Next Three Days" is hard to classify: it is part drama, but no one cares; it's part thriller, but only a handful of scenes are exciting; it's on the verge of action/adventure, but the car chase fizzles out and they just get off at the next exit.

The direction of this film would have benefited if it didn't try to be so clever with its flashbacks and out-of-sequence teaser opening, and just focused on the family and the lengths one will go to for their loved ones.

And without giving anything away, the ending was pretty illogical and left me completely unsatisfied.

Seriously, if you're going to remake a movie, make sure it trumps the original, or else what's the point?

Save your two hours and your dollar this weekend, and skip "The Next Three Days."



courtesy of marked-up.com

*'Due Date' deserves due diligence; worth \$1*

By **JOSH LAWSON**  
Staff Writer

Who doesn't love Robert Downey Jr. as Tony Stark, the billionaire playboy behind the mask of Iron Man?

Who doesn't love Alan Garner, Zach Galifianakis' hairy, idiotic man-child from "The Hangover"?

Who doesn't love a story wherein the two beloved characters are thrown into a car together on a reluctant cross-country road trip?

Apparently, most critics. But that doesn't mean the "Due Date" isn't an enjoyable ride with its fair share of laughs.

The plot is nothing new – uptight, white-collar Peter Highman (Downey Jr.) and aspiring actor Ethan Tremblay (Galifianakis) are unexpectedly paired up through a series of ridiculous happenstances that land them both on the

no-fly list.

Desperate to get to Los Angeles so that Peter can witness the birth of his daughter and Ethan can further his acting career, the two decide to make the trek by car.

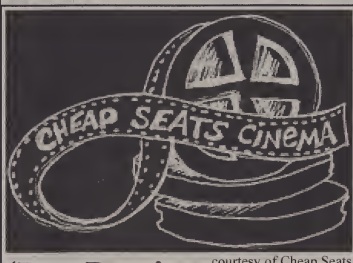
"Due Date" unfolds in a rather predictable fashion, with Atlanta and L.A. serving as bookends and a series of ridiculously outrageous scenarios filling in the blanks and providing the laughs along the way.

There are no unforeseen plot or character developments, but, that being said, the movie still offers plenty of laughs. The scenarios throughout the film are often times very funny, over the top, involving everything from firearms to car crashes, with a fair share of illegal substances for good measure.

The interaction between Robert Downey Jr. and Zach Galifianakis is what makes the entire story worthwhile and is the driving force behind the film. Neither of the actors do anything groundbreaking in comparison to their past performances. In fact, Downey Jr. plays what is essentially Tony Stark in a middle management position and Galifianakis, for all intents and purposes, simply reprises his role as Alan Garner from "The Hangover."

The duo work well together and are very entertaining; however if the idea of this mash-up isn't appealing to you, "Due Date" probably won't be your cup of tea.

Most of the screen time is



courtesy of Cheap Seats

**'Due Date'**

• Playing in Dodd for \$1 on Friday at 7 p.m., Saturday at 10 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

**'The Next Three Days'**

• Playing in Dodd for \$1 on Friday at 10 p.m. and Saturday at 7 p.m. and Sunday at 2 p.m.

## Jimmy Eat World Set to Rock Dodd Next Wednesday

By **KYLE SHEARIN**  
Staff Writer

Jimmy Eat World will rock Dodd Auditorium next Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Giant Productions, the student-run organization who provides and coordinates the music events on campus, picked Jimmy Eat World as this spring's act.

Co-chairman Justin Thompson explained the reasoning for picking Jimmy Eat World to perform.

"Our reasoning is that people have at least a few Jimmy Eat World songs that they like," Thompson said. "So we felt it was a good choice. We were lucky to

get them."

Thompson said that student feedback to the choice has been positive.

"When we announced it, people had a strong reaction," he said. "It has been selling well. We will probably be at capacity, if not sold out."

Doors open at 6 p.m. so show up early to see David Bazan, of Pedro the Lion fame, and his band open the show.

Often considered trailblazers for the second-wave emo movement, Jimmy Eat



courtesy of phillylist.com

Jimmy Eat World set to perform Feb. 9 at 7 p.m.

World formed in Mesa, Arizona in 1993.

After heavy touring, the band eventually signed with Columbia Records in 1995 and released their major label debut, "Static Prevails," the following year.

It wouldn't be until 1999 that the band would release their critically embraced, but commercially ignored "Clarity."

Despite achieving a small cult following of fans, the band struggled to find their footing. This all

changed when the group began to see a dramatic surge of popularity from their 2001 album, "Bleed American."

The album produced one Top 40 single, "The Middle," and its follow-up single, "Sweetness," which both topped modern rock radio and were MTV favorites.

Since then, the band has released three additional albums furthering their growth as a band, most recently was last year's "Invented."

Tickets are on sale now in the OSACS office under the Washington Diner of Seaco. Stop by between 8 a.m. and 3 p.m. For students, tickets are \$10; for non-students, tickets are \$20.



# Features

## Farm, A Growing Responsibility

San Ysidro Farms, run by a UMW senior, offers volunteers the chance to experience organic farming firsthand



Courtesy of Kaitlin Mayhew

Alumna Carly Byers '10 (left) and senior Sean Green volunteered last summer at San Ysidro Farms in Stafford County, Va., run by senior Kaitlin Mayhew and her boyfriend.

By LONDON JAMES  
Staff Writer

When senior Kaitlin Mayhew goes home for the day, she doesn't return to a dorm room or an apartment.

"I like being able to take a break from town," said Mayhew. "Whether it's Fredericksburg for school or D.C. for work, I spend a lot of time in cities. It's nice to be able to come home to animals and trees and a simpler lifestyle."

Mayhew is a full-time student and interns at a publication in D.C.

She also lives on San Ysidro Farms in Stafford, Va. with her boyfriend

Michael Green, 30.

They raise everything from legumes to livestock on the 50-acre farm.

Mayhew and Green grow watermelons, carrots, bell peppers, okra and a variety of other herbs and vegetables. The farm also supports one bull, three cows, three horses, chickens and other household pets.

Named after Saint Isidor, the patron saint of farmers and laborers, Green selected the name after learning about the saint while working on farms in New Mexico.

San Ysidro Farms is also a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA)

farm.

This means that many of the farm's costs are covered by shares anyone can buy in exchange for different food

*Whether it's Fredericksburg [...] or D.C. [...], I spend a lot of time in cities. It's nice to be able to come home to animals and trees and a simpler lifestyle.*

-Kaitlin Mayhew

grown on-site each week. Shares are \$300 a year, which comes out to \$15 a week, and harvest distribution is every Thursday.

In preparing for their 2011 growing season, Green and Mayhew already have 20 people signed up for shares, but their goal is to reach 50.

A reduced cost of \$100 a year is available to anyone who's not afraid to get their hands dirty and volunteer on the farm.

Mayhew and Green participate in the World-Wide Opportunities on Organic Farmers (WWOOF), an organization that allows people to travel to organic farms throughout the country

and volunteer in exchange for free meals and lodging.

San Ysidro Farms began accepting WWOOF volunteers in January 2009 and hosts eight to 10 different people throughout the year.

WWOOFers coming to San Ysidro Farms can stay in one of the two spare rooms in the house, but when it's warm outside, many prefer camping in the beautiful woodlands and open skies surrounding the cow pasture.

Green worked on his first organic farm at age 19. He feels like he has

See FARMING page 8 ▶

## Class of '11 Laments Future

By JORDAN KROLL  
Staff Writer

Jan. 28 marked the beginning of the end for the class of 2011.

With the realization that May 7 is fewer than 100 days away, seniors gathered in the Great Hall for Senior Countdown to gamble, win raffle prizes and get drunk, not just on what was in the flasks they snuck in, but also nostalgia.

"The thing I'll miss most about UMW is playing basketball in the auxiliary gym," said James White. "[It] is the crème de la crème of all sporting facilities out there. And if it's good enough for the fencing team, it's good enough for me. I will truly miss the auxiliary gym."

White, a self-proclaimed "UMW's elite pick-up ballers," might be alone in his dedication to the school's auxiliary gym, but his attachment to something uniquely UMW is shared by many of his classmates.

Colleen Trachy works in the Annual Giving office and is not looking forward to finding a new job after graduation.

"It is hands down the best place I have ever—and probably will ever—work in my life," Trachy said.

Elena South confessed that there's really nothing she won't miss, but what she anticipates missing the most might be the most inherently UMW of all.

"I'm going to miss the complete unity our school has in not having any school spirit," said South.

South spent much of her time at Senior Countdown controlling the Black Jack table, thanks to lessons from her uncle Pepe.

"I never realized how exhilarating it is to keep on winning and because of this I will probably never play again, to avoid addiction and possible homelessness that comes with said ad-

McDonald's application just yet, though.

According to a December survey from the National Association of Colleges and Employers (NACE), which conducts research and offers support for college graduates seeking employment, the anticipated hiring activity from December 2009 to December

come relief to many, not every soon-to-be graduate is looking forward to suiting up and being thrust into the workforce.

"I'll miss the fact that it's currently acceptable to sleep in until noon and get through most of the day still wearing what I wore the previous night," said Ryan Forbes. "The thought of having to wake up to be to work by 8 a.m. five days a week makes me sick."

Many seniors also still have a number of things they'd like to accomplish before "being kicked into the real world," as Catzby Pitzvada put it.

"In the next 100 days I will be trying to fit in as much partying as possible," Pitzvada said.

Others will be using these final months to complete a few academic pursuits they've been meaning to get around to.

"I want to write something that is amazing or finish writing something that I've started so I can polish it," said Trachy. "I also want to write a paper a whole week before

it's due."

Though, Trachy admitted, this has been on her bucket list for quite some time.

Kathryn Schmidt, on the other hand, intends to use her last 100 days to prepare for what's in store starting May 8.

"I'd like to acquire new coping mechanisms for dealing with the future other than shaking and crying," said Schmidt.

2010 increased by 26 percent.

This study is conducted regularly and surveys employers across the country about how many new employees they intend to hire each month.

Additionally, according to the NACE "Job Outlook 2011," there is an expected 13.5 percent increase in hiring from the class of 2011 compared to the class of 2010, based on employers' responses to the survey.

Although this news is likely a wel-

dition," South said.

Rather than breaking into the on-line poker circuit, South plans to spend the remainder of her time as an undergraduate "not having a nervous breakdown."

"I don't know what I am going to do with myself [after graduation]," said South. "I am double majoring in English and Spanish, [so I will be able to] ask, 'Do you want fries with that?' in two languages."

South may not want to hand in that

## HPV: What You Might Not Know

HPV, a virus that causes numerous cancers, is prevalent among young

By NADIA CHOUDHRY  
Staff Writer

Farah Aziz, a 21-year-old from Maryland, never expected to face a cancer scare at such an early age.

After visiting her gynecologist for a routine check-up, she received a phone call that completely changed her perception of cancer.

Her Pap smear results came back abnormal.

"When I first got the phone call, I was confused. I really didn't know what that meant," said Aziz. "I was told to come back in six months to receive an additional Pap smear because the results could be abnormal for a variety of different reasons."

"Having an abnormal Pap [is] very common in younger women," said Richmond obstetric gynecologist Dr. Joseph Borzelleca.

Heidi Simpson and L. Timmes Ross, both nurse practitioners at the UMW Women's Clinic, agreed that having an abnormal Pap is normal for young girls and can be attributed to a variety of reasons, such as a yeast infection, bacterial infection or the Human Papillomavirus (HPV).

Aziz waited anxiously for six months to get another Pap smear, only to receive word of yet another abnormal result. Aziz learned that these results were due to HPV, which caused pre-cancerous cells to form in her cervix.

There are over 150 known HPV viruses, an estimated 40 of which are sexually transmitted.

According to the National Cancer Institute (NCI), 15 types of high-risk

See HPV page 8 ▶

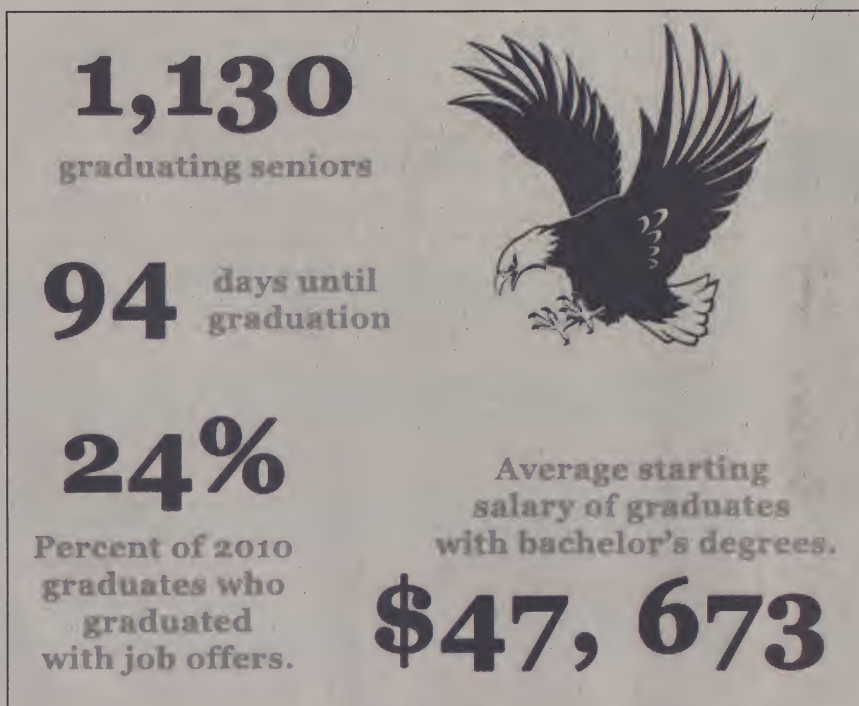


Image courtesy of UMW. Data via the New York Times and UMW Office of the Registrar



# Younger Women At Risk for HPV

## HPV page 7

HPV strains cause virtually all cervical cancers. Other strains can cause vulvar cancer, anal cancer and oral cancer.

The NCI estimates that there are more cases of genital HPV infections than any other STI in the U.S. In 2010, over 12,000 women in the U.S. were diagnosed with cervical cancer and 4,000 women lost their lives to it.

Other low-risk strains of HPV can cause genital warts and, according to Simpson and Timmes, most types of HPV that do not cause cancer or genital warts are fought off by the body's immune system.

"When I learned the facts about HPV and how it can cause cervical cancer, I was surprised that I didn't know more about it before," said Aziz. "We learn about all the different sexually transmitted diseases in school and how to protect ourselves, but we learn so little about HPV."

Sexually transmitted HPV is highly contagious and is spread by skin-to-skin contact during vaginal, oral and

anal sex with an infected partner, according to the NCI.

Condoms lower the risk of spreading HPV, but they do not fully protect against contracting the virus. Addi-

are the chief vectors for spread [of HPV] among heterosexual women; however [they] don't develop cancer so they infrequently have any consequences of their infections."

According to Borzelleca, it takes most healthy women seven to 10 years before cancerous HPV cells actually become an invasive cancer.

"If the woman's immune system is

cancer is easily avoidable due to the many tools available to prevent it, including regular screenings, practicing safe sex and by getting vaccinated.

The two vaccines that are available through prescription to prevent against the specific cancer-causing strains of HPV are Gardasil and Cervarix.

According to Dr. Zorbecal, vaccinations should begin at an early age, before a person is likely to be exposed to the virus.

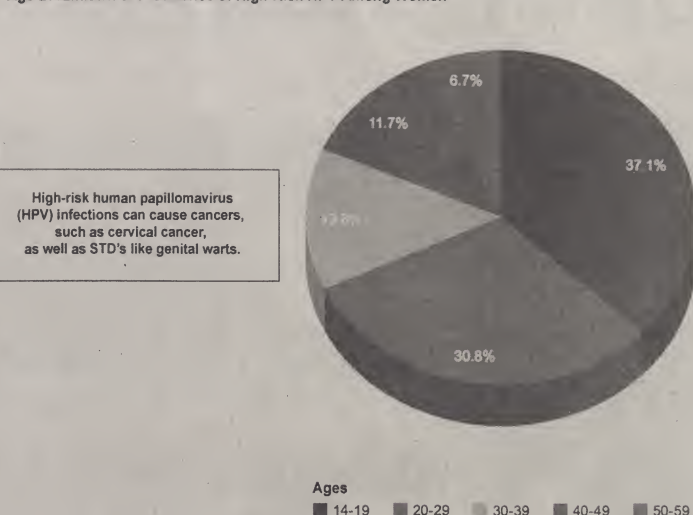
"If you are already sexually active, then you could have already been exposed to one or all of the HPV types," he said. "But, since there are no easy blood tests to find that out, you should still get vaccinated in case it can still provide you protection against HPV types you have not been exposed to."

Aziz had the pre-cancerous cells in her cervix removed and says that as long as she keeps up with

routine check-ups, she can live the rest of her life cancer and worry free.

"This experience was like a wake-up call for me," she said. "Everyone needs to be better educated on HPV."

Age Breakdown of Prevalence of High-Risk HPV Among Women



tionally, symptoms are not always apparent, so the virus is often unknowingly spread.

"Men can and do get the HPV virus [too]," said Borzelleca. "They

Borzelleca explained that men can however get genital warts due to HPV and in rare occasions cancer of the penis is associated with HPV exposure.

compromised by HIV, diabetes or smoking, the process can be accelerated to as a few as three years," he warned.

Both nurses stressed that cervical

## New Class Attempts to Understand Time

By CHRISTINA LAMBERT  
Staff Writer

This semester Assistant Professor of Music Jessie Fillerup and 18 students from a variety of disciplines are embarking on a journey to discover exactly what time is.

"What is Time?" is an interdisciplinary course supported by an Enduring Questions grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities. This program helps college students explore a question that has persisted over time from an interdisciplinary perspective.

The goal of the course is for students to be more aware of how they shape and are shaped by time.

A typical class consists of discussion, sometimes with the class as a whole and sometimes in small groups. Discussion topics include modes of time keeping and critiquing awareness of past, present and future.

Over the course of the semester, students will be interpreting and assessing theories of time to distinguish similarities and differences based on the perception of time throughout history and across cultures.

Members of the class represent diverse backgrounds of study. There are

majors across all departments, including English, political science, psychology and philosophy. Although taught by a music professor, there are only two music majors in the class.

"Having a variety of majors is critical to the success of the course, since as scholars we tend to see and interpret things from our own disciplinary perspectives," said Fillerup.

Teaching a course like this for the first time was a challenge for Fillerup, who did most of the preparation over the summer. In the fall she presented a paper on her research of time in the music of Maurice Ravel at a conference, which relates

to the course.

"I hope to learn something from every class that I teach, and my work on the course had a powerful influence on the way I approached that research topic," said Fillerup.

To examine how people shape time, Fillerup has given students a variety of assignments, such as listening to music and reading excerpts of the Canterbury Tales.

There is also a course blog maintained by students who post about the assigned readings, ask questions and comment.

At the end of the semester, students will create a multimedia final

project to be presented on campus during their Time Fair.

Although only a few weeks into the semester, Fillerup is pleased with the progress of the new course.

"I'm very impressed with the quality of work that the students are doing," she said. "They bring great insight, energy, and commitment to the course. I really couldn't ask for more."

"What Is Time?" will be offered again next semester, and, depending on demand, may be offered annually. It is a three-credit class and counts as a Speaking Intensive requirement.



Courtesy of Kaitlin Mayhew

San Ysidro Farms' cat, James, wandering through the grounds.

## Local Farming an Option

### FARMING page 7

been a part of WWOOF long before San Ysidro Farms.

"I think I was WWOOFing before I knew what WWOOFing was and whenever I got to a farm I wanted to have those opportunities," said Green.

Green explained they encounter two types of WWOOFers.

The first type is simply using WWOOF as a way to travel the world and enjoy new organic lifestyles and opportunities, he said. The second in-

cludes those who are interested in learning more about farming to decide whether it is the right life choice for them.

"I couldn't think of a better way to work with farms than get accepted on an organic farm and experience it firsthand," said Green.

San Ysidro Farms offers a good opportunity for UMW students who are interested in organic farming or local, sustainable food to get some experience without having to travel, according to Mayhew.

"We're only 10 minutes from

downtown Fredericksburg and students can go home at the end of the day," said Mayhew. "They don't have to commit to anything."

Students who work four to six hours in one week can go home with a week's worth of vegetables.

Green admitted that running a farm can be a lot of responsibility, especially without proper help. However, there is nothing he would rather be doing.

"It's addicting and I don't think I could do anything else at this point," explained Green.

### Interested in volunteering?

Contact Kaitlin and Michael at [sanysidrofarm@gmail.com](mailto:sanysidrofarm@gmail.com)

## Help Wanted

### PT WORK Excellent Pay

Flexible schedules  
Evenings and weekends avail  
Customer sales/service  
No experience necessary  
All majors welcome

All ages 18+, conditions apply  
CALL 446-5990  
[www.collegeincome.com](http://www.collegeincome.com)

## Cooking Corner Cheesecake Toffee Drops

By VIRGINIA OSELLA  
Staff Writer

I was working as a nanny last summer and I picked up a couple of cookbooks when I brought the kids to the library. One of them was called Small-Batch Baking, and it was full of recipes for mini cakes and pies (cute, but requiring special equipment) and small batches of muffins and cookies.

I liked the idea of making just six or so, because I can't (or at least I shouldn't) finish three-dozen cookies by myself.

One afternoon, I decided to make this recipe, and it came out great. The cookies were perfectly chewy and the cream cheese and Heath bar were a great flavor combo.

It is strange working with such small amounts of ingredients, so make sure to measure carefully. For the egg, beat one egg in a bowl,

measure a teaspoon for the recipe and save the rest in the fridge for scrambled eggs or another recipe.

When working with the wet ingredients and the finished dough, make sure to scrape the spoons and the bowl thoroughly, because every bit counts.

This recipe makes six large cookies, the perfect amount for you and your roommates.

**Ingredients:**  
1/3 cup flour  
1/8 tsp baking soda  
pinch of salt  
1/4 cup firmly packed brown sugar  
2 tbs cream cheese, at room temp  
1 tbs unsalted butter, at room temp  
1 tsp well-beaten egg or egg substitute  
1/4 tsp vanilla extract  
1/4 cup chopped Heath bar

### Directions:

Preheat the oven to 300  
Whisk the flour, baking soda and salt in a small bowl and blend well.

Place the brown sugar, cream cheese, and butter in a separate mixing bowl and beat with an electric mixer until smooth.

Add the egg and vanilla and beat on medium speed until the dough is lighter in texture, about 20 seconds.

Scrape down the sides of the bowl and add the flour mixture. Beat on low speed just until the dry ingredients are blended in. Stir in the toffee pieces.

Drop the cookie batter by rounded tablespoonfuls onto the baking sheet 2 inches apart. Bake until the cookies appear dry and are golden, 20 to 25 minutes.

Remove the cookies from the baking sheet immediately and transfer to a piece of wax paper on a wire rack.



## Outside the Fence

By SARAH SMITH  
Staff Writer

### Across the Nation

In response to vocal opposition to intrusive scanning devices in place in airports across the country, the Transportation Security Administration debuted new software in the Las Vegas airport on Tuesday.

The changes made attempt to address the issues of invasion of privacy that passengers have raised.

Instead of the revealing images that the scanners now produce, the proposed software instead shows gray outlines of the person's body. The screen displays the word "ok" in a green flash for passengers who are cleared by the scan.

If the scan detects any suspicious items, then boxes outlined in red appear on the silhouette to indicate the location of the contraband.

Reagan National Airport and Atlanta will likely be some of the next airports to receive the new software.

According to John Pistole, head of the TSA, "We believe it addresses the privacy issues that have been raised. It's basically a software modification to existing equipment, so there's very little cost."

If it proves successful in the airports where it is first installed, then it will be implemented in 486 scanners currently in use at 78 major airports.

-Courtesy of the *Washington Post*, Feb. 1

### Around the World

Cyclone Yasi hit Australia yesterday, causing destruction of buildings, trees and power lines. Yasi has earned the title of most powerful storm to hit the area in nearly a century and has cut off thousands of people's electricity.

The storm hit the country initially at Mission Beach, a small resort town in Queens-

land state. This coastal area is known to tourists as the gateway to the Great Barrier reef.

There, winds gusted up to 186 mph and rain drenched the area.

Over 10,000 people flocked to 20 evacuation centers, while still others moved in with family and friends to get out of harm's way.

The storm's front spanned 300 miles, containing a danger zone of 190 miles.

Months of flooding preceding the cyclone have already killed 35 people and flooded hundreds of communities. Now, even more areas could face flooding according to the Bureau of Meteorology.

-Courtesy of the *Washington Post*, Feb. 2

### Outside the World

There may be more livable planets in the universe than previously suspected. An orbiting NASA telescope, known as the Kepler telescope, has recently identified over 50 planets that are potentially hospitable to life. Prior to this discovery, only two planets outside our solar system were suspected to be able to support living beings.

The Kepler has discovered 1,235 possible planets outside our solar system in the past year.

These discoveries have not yet been confirmed, but Kepler chief scientist William Borucki believes that 80 percent of them will eventually be verified.

Of the potentially inhabitable planets, 54 possibilities is "an enormous amount, an inconceivable amount," Borucki said. "It's amazing to see this huge number, because up to now, we've had zero."

-Courtesy of the *Washington Post*, Feb. 2



Fatty J's, a downtown bar, will soon become F.W. Sullivan's.

Kelsey Mayo/Bulletin

## Organization Seeks to Attract Local Businesses

By CATHALIJNE ADAMS  
Staff Writer

As the nation tightens its financial belt, Fredericksburg's restaurants are bouncing back from the recent recession.

The Fredericksburg City Council is granting funds to several downtown businesses as part of the Economic Development Authority's (EDA) five-year strategic plan, attracting new restaurants to the area.

The Fredericksburg EDA is appointed by the City Council to provide grants through its Jump-Start! program to new or existing businesses that would further stimulate economic development in the city.

However, only the City Council may choose to give Fredericksburg businesses performance incentives.

With its strategic plan, the EDA hopes to expand tourism and the arts community as well as revitalize downtown Fredericksburg.

Karen Hedelt, director of Fredericksburg's Economic Development and Tourism, said that as the economy picks up from the recession, restaurants have been leading the way to revitalization.

"Restaurants are the first category in the downtown mix to show significant reinvestment," Hedelt said. "We expect retail to follow."

Due in part to the five-year incentive package totaling \$46,250 from the City Council, Longstreet's restaurant has re-

placed Las Palmas and University Café at 409 William St.

The incentive package includes a 50 percent Business, Professional and Occupation License tax reduction, which is valued at \$1,250 per year. It also provides 10 percent return of sales and meals tax, valued up to \$8,000 a year.

Currently, Longstreet's employs eight UMW students, but the restaurant's General Manager and Operating Partner David Hanlon is cautious about hiring more UMW students.

"Like all other businesses in the area we have to be careful about hiring too many students," he said.

Hanlon pointed out that at the end of the spring semester most UMW students return home.

According to Hanlon, Longstreet's is designed to attract students with amenities like the arcade and billiards. Beyond students, Longstreet's is committed to appealing to the general public, said Hanlon.

"I don't think in this economy anyone can afford not to appeal to the general public," he said.

The EDA has also received a grant request from the owners of another restaurant: F.W. Sullivan's Olde Town Bar and Grille, a tavern-style establishment.

F.W. Sullivan's is expected to replace Fatty J's at 106 George St. in late June or early July. Owners Jake Crocker and Hayden Fisher have already established a F.W. Sullivan's Fan Bar and Grille in Richmond's his-

toric Fan District.

Crocker and Fisher were attracted to Fredericksburg because of its situation as the southern portion of the Virginia Railway Express, the growth of Stafford and Spotsylvania, and the goals of the EDA.

"They've rolled out the red carpet," Crocker said in reference to the EDA.

Crocker said that F.W. Sullivan's is in line with the national trend of public interest going to a more urban environment as opposed to suburbia.

"Central Park is everything we're against," Crocker said.

F.W. Sullivan's will be geared towards young professionals over the age of 25, he said. According to Crocker this is what will set it apart from Fatty J's.

Crocker said that "what [F.W. Sullivan's] not going to be is a glorified frat house."

Freshman Nikko Ooi cited the lack of transportation and alternative entertainment and food options on campus as a reason for why frequenting downtown Fredericksburg businesses is not typical for her and her friends.

However, Fredericksburg Regional Transit (FRED) buses are free for UMW students. FRED buses have several stops on the UMW campus and run to downtown Fredericksburg.

When asked whether any other businesses were thinking of coming to downtown Fredericksburg, Hedelt said, "We are working on several prospects right now but cannot make any announcements."

## 100 Acres of Forestland Lost Each Day in Watershed

◀ TREES, page 1

ued to decline throughout the region.

Fredericksburg alone lost an estimated 807.5 acres of trees, a 27.64 percent decline, while the population increased by 9.06 percent.

However, this concept is not unique to Fredericksburg. Because of the increase in population, new forces like sprawling development and an increase in the amount of impervious surfaces, including parking lots, sidewalks and roads, are altering forest ecosystems throughout the state every day.

The United States Department of Agriculture forest service reports that while "forests now cover 58 percent, or 24 million acres, of the Chesapeake Bay watershed, the watershed loses 100 acres of forestland each day."

In a 20-year period, the Chesapeake Bay watershed lost over 750,000 acres of forestland to development—a rate of 140 acres a day and equivalent to the loss of 20 cities the size of Washington, D.C.

Jim Pugh, the GIS technician of the Virginia Department of Forestry, feels that, "Fredericksburg's urban tree canopy is a vital community asset, reducing storm water runoff, improving air quality, reducing the city's carbon footprint, enhancing quality of life, contributing to savings on energy bills and serving as a habitat for wildlife."

The GWRC reports that the 27 percent decrease in tree cover accompanies a 25 percent increase in impervious surfaces.

In 2010, the Virginia Department of Transportation conducted a study of the environmental consequences of expansion of I-95 through Fredericksburg, Spotsylvania, Stafford and Prince William counties.

The study found that if carried out as planned, the highway expansion would displace 518 acres of woodlands and 11 acres of aquatic habitat.

According to Mike Kuhns, a forestry specialist with Utah State University, residential changes also account for a large part of the tree cover loss in

Fredericksburg.

"The most common reason for residential tree pruning is to clear power lines and other overhead utility lines," Kuhns said.

Trees growing into power lines have been known to cause power outages, so a wide variety of contractors offer trimming services to Fredericksburg residents.

Kuhns notes, however, that in the past, pruning done during line clearing may have decreased tree health and could even have caused trees to become dangerous.

"Modern techniques have been developed that result in healthier, safer trees and reduced line clearing costs," Kuhns said.

Based on current development trends from the USDA, 45 percent of the Chesapeake Bay watershed's network of forests and wetlands is vulnerable to future development.

Many of the threatened forests surrounding Fredericksburg in particular are large, high quality tracts that are not under public ownership or other protection.

## Campus Dining News

Join us for our

### Black History Month Celebration Dinner

Enjoy great African, Caribbean & Creole Dishes!

Monday, February 7  
4 PM - 8 PM at Seacobeck

Cost: Meal Plan "Meal" or regular dinner price



### Chili Cook-Off

Our UMW chefs compete for your votes to see who makes the best chilli

Please join us!

Wednesday, February 9  
5 PM - 7 PM at Seacobeck

Cost: Meal Plan "meal" or regular dinner price.

### \$5,000 STOP Hunger Scholarships

Students who have worked to help eliminate hunger in their communities could win Sodexo Foundation STOP Hunger Scholarships!

Selected students will receive a \$5,000 Scholarship AND \$5,000 for their hunger-related charity!

Nominations due by February 18, 2011

For details, go to [www.SodexoFoundation.org](http://www.SodexoFoundation.org)

Campus Dining Web Site: [www.umwdining.com](http://www.umwdining.com)  
Join our Facebook Group for special offers! "UMW Dining"

UMW DINING SERVICES

UNIVERSITY OF MARY WASHINGTON





## THEY RISKED THEIR LIVES FOR FREEDOM. WOULD YOU?

James Farmer Visiting Professor Lecture Series presents

### ERIC ETHERIDGE

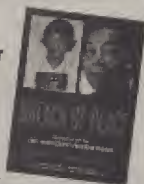
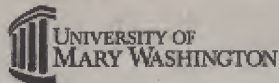
author of *Breach of Peace: Portraits of the 1961 Freedom Riders*

**Monday, February 7, 2011 7 p.m.**  
**Great Hall, Woodard Campus Center**

Hear the inspiring story of the Freedom Riders, who endured firebombings, beatings, and arrest in 1961 to desegregate travel facilities serving interstate bus passengers in the Deep South.

**Reception will follow lecture.**  
**Free and open to the public.**

For more information on this lecture, please contact the UMW Events Office at 540/684-1066. For more information on this speaker, please visit [www.apbspeakers.com](http://www.apbspeakers.com).



Stack up the savings with our

## Endless Friendly's Pancakes!



All you can eat  
pancakes on select  
breakfast entrees.

See our special Endless  
Pancake Menu.  
For a limited time only.



2068 Plank Road  
Fredericksburg, VA  
540-371-3136

We now accept the EagleOne Card!



*Friendly's*

513 IN/CO  
VALID THROUGH 2.28.11

**free** Happy Ending  
Sundae®  
with the purchase of any adult entree

Please present coupon to server prior to ordering. Not valid when used with any other discount or promotional offer. Limit one coupon per party, per visit. Valid on food and ice cream purchases only. Cannot be used towards a gift card. Please of this coupon is prohibited, including internet auction sites, except where expressly permitted by law. Applicable sales tax applies. Valid only at 2068 Plank Rd., Fredericksburg, VA.

*Friendly's*

103 IN/CO  
VALID THROUGH 2.28.11

**50% off** any  
appetizer

Please present coupon to server prior to ordering. Not valid when used with any other discount or promotional offer. Limit one coupon per party, per visit. Valid on food and ice cream purchases only. Cannot be used towards a gift card. Please of this coupon is prohibited, including internet auction sites, except where expressly permitted by law. Applicable sales tax applies. Valid only at 2068 Plank Rd., Fredericksburg, VA.

## MAKE A BREAK FOR IT

**STUDENTS SAVE 15% WITH A  
STUDENT ADVANTAGE CARD!**



Next time you head home, on vacation or for a weekend away from campus, take a break from gas prices, traffic jams, exhaust fumes and long lines at the airport too. Hop aboard an Amtrak Virginia<sup>SM</sup> train instead of driving or flying, and you'll be taking one of the most relaxing and environmentally responsible rides around. And with a Student Advantage Card, you'll save 15% off regular fares too - check out our Facebook page for all the details!

[facebook.com/amtrakvirginia](http://facebook.com/amtrakvirginia)



## When Feeling Great Can't Wait!

Active Students and Staff:

- See a friendly, qualified medical provider - walk in TODAY!
- Available days, evenings and weekends.
- **WAHOO!**® - (Wait At Home Or Office); we'll call you when your exam room is ready.
- **Most major insurance accepted**, including Medicare, Medicaid and TRICARE, or a discount program is available for uninsured patients.
- **Convenient, affordable school and sports physicals** are available today; no appointment is necessary.



**Open 7 Days A Week;  
Extended Hours**

THE URGENT CARE OF CHOICE IN YOUR COMMUNITY

**NextCare**  
UMW URGENT CARE  
1-888-261-9689  
[NextCareUMW.com](http://NextCareUMW.com)

**FREDERICKSBURG**  
5825 Plank Rd.  
330 White Oak Rd.  
15 S. Gateway Dr.  
**STAFFORD**  
325 Garrisonville Rd.  
**DUMFRIES**  
3990 Fottler Park Dr.  
**WOODBIDGE**  
12581 Milstead Way



# Sports

## Track & Field Impresses Again



Courtesy of Clint Olfen

The UMW track & field team had many impressive performances at the Liberty Open last Saturday, Jan. 29.

By **ANDREW KADA**  
Staff Writer

This past Friday and Saturday, the University of Mary Washington men's and women's track and field teams competed at the Liberty Open hosted by Liberty University in Lynchburg, Va.

The Mary Washington teams saw a number of solid performances, which included sophomore Michelle Sutherland's fourth place finish in the 500-meter run with a time of 1:21.55 and sophomore Brooke Thompson's 12th place finish in the 60-meter hurdle sprint with a time of 10.06 seconds.

For the 1000-meter run, seniors Sarah Dawes and Kristy Witek placed very well, as did sophomore Scott Plunkett. Dawes took second place with a time of 3:09.43, Witek earned

seventh with her 3:18.71 time, and Plunkett finished the men's race with a time of 2:39.01.

For the men's weight throw, senior Matt Geller earned 10th place with a distance of 51 feet and 5.75 in.

Mary Washington's best placing relay race came from the women's 4 by 800 meter squad, which posted a sixth place time of 10:14.23. The relay team consisted of junior Mara Cate, Witek, Sutherland and Dawes.

Junior Michaela Sands said at this point during the indoor season, the teams are still getting back into the swing of things.

"Our team is starting to rebuild its base at all levels and events," Sands said. "Winter break is hard, especially as it's our responsibility to run, lift and train on our own."

Head Coach Stan Soper has been doing his best at practice to keep

progress consistent and has been using the indoor meets as an opportunity for new runners to adjust and allow his athletes to get back into racing shape.

"The weather has made it difficult to get in consistent training at a high level, but we do what we can and make the best of it," Soper said.

Despite the excitement of recent meets and the indoor season, the teams are clear on what ultimate goal they wish to accomplish when the outdoor Capital Athletic Conference Championship comes around in April. Both UMW teams are looking to bring as much competition and firepower as they can to the meet, which will require steady and healthy improvements each week.

This Saturday, Feb. 5, both teams will travel up to Haverford College near Philadelphia. Two weeks from then, the teams will make their way to Christopher Newport University's Mason-Dixon Championship meet in Newport News, Va.

"There will be a lot of new competition at Haverford, so it will be nice to expose ourselves up there," Dawes said. As for the Mason-Dixon Championship, Dawes was equally confident. "The team is capable of taking home a number of the titles at this year's Mason-Dixon meet at CNU."

As an added bonus at the Liberty Open last Friday night, spectators got to witness Liberty University's Sam Chelanga run the world's fastest indoor 5k of 2011. Chelanga finished with a time of 13:41.35 to set the Tolsma Indoor Track Center record and was automatically qualified for nationals.

## QB Vick Repentant

◀ **VICK MOVING ON**, page 4

Vick travels twice a month to talk to children about the horrible things he's done. Since his release from prison, he has never once tried to diminish the extent of his horrible crimes.

According to the HSUS website, as a result of the work he has done for the organization, 30 laws have been created or updated to ensure that dog fighting is quelled wherever it happens.

States have created special units to combat dog fighting, putting over 1,000 more police officers on the streets.

For his part, Vick has continued to attend speaking engagements on behalf of the HSUS to denounce his past and

who will never recognize Vick's humanity and cannot accept that Vick, and the rest of America, would like to move on and continue to make progress toward ending animal cruelty.

Even our president has come out in support of Vick. Jeff Lurie, the owner of the Philadelphia Eagles, recalled a conversation for *Sports Illustrated* that he had with Obama over the phone.

When discussing what Obama said, he states, "So many people who serve time never get a fair second chance. He was ... passionate about it. He said it's never a level playing field for prisoners when they get out of jail. And he was happy that we did something on such a national stage that showed our faith in giving someone a second chance after such a major downfall."

It seems that we need to reconcile the fact that Michael Vick is trying his best to be a changed man. He accepts responsibility for what he did and has paid a heavy price - about \$100 million and three years of his life.

He has done an admirable job trying to reform who he is and trying to

rectify a horrible situation.

This does not mean that we should forget what happened, but we do need to move forward and accept Michael Vick for who he was, who he is now, and for who he is trying to be. Forgiving his past sins and believing that his attempting a sincere redemption is the only way we can move on.



Courtesy of the Associated Press

Since his release from prison, Vick has made many public speeches against dogfighting.

any dog fighting activity that still exists.

However, despite his efforts, there are those who still insist on banning him from the NFL, demanding that he continue to be punished for his crimes.

It would appear that nothing less than the total destruction of his life will satiate the extreme demands of people

## Super Bowl Sunday Will End With a Steelers Win

◀ **LOMBARDI TROPHY**, page 12

two weeks to strategize only for Rodgers, while Packers defensive coordinator, Don Capers, has had to come up with a way to slow down both Roethlisberger and Mendenhall.

That transitions to the next reason why I've warmed up to Pittsburgh in Sunday's game, as the coaching edge greatly favors the Steelers. The renowned LeBeau was already mentioned and Pittsburgh head coach Mike Tomlin has taken the Steelers to a pair of Super Bowls now in just four years at the helm. Tomlin isn't afraid to take risks, and he makes some of the best quick decisions of any NFL coach, which is much more impressive than it sounds when looking at the idiocy of some coaches around the league.

On the other hand, Packers head coach Mike McCarthy appears to be an offensive-version of former Dallas Cowboys head coach Wade Phillips, and that's in no way a compliment. I don't like coaches who play not to lose, and that's precisely what McCarthy does. McCarthy gets too conservative much too quickly on the offensive end, shutting things down in the passing game and relying on a weak rushing attack to keep the clock running when his team gets a lead. That strategy nearly allowed the Philadelphia Eagles to come back against Green Bay in the Wild Card Round and gave Chicago Bears third-string quarterback Caleb Hanie a chance to tie the game with under a minute to play in the NFC Champi-

onship Game.

While a lot is always made about a team's offensive and defensive numbers when analyzing a game, a critical aspect of football is often overlooked: special teams. The website FootballOutsiders.com uses a formula that has gained respect and credibility in recent years that weighs the different aspects of special teams (field goals/extra points, kickoffs, kick returns, punts and punt returns) and ranks teams on their overall number. By those rankings, Pittsburgh finished the regular season with an average special teams unit (16th), but was still much better than the poor special teams play of the Packers (27th). While the average fan may discount such information, it's important to note how games between teams that are as evenly matched as these could easily come down to field position.

The final reason I like the team that hails from the Steel City is experience. This is another thing that is constantly coined as overrated, but nothing really compares to the pressure of playing in front of such a large audience and dealing with the entire experience leading up to the game. According to Neilson Co., in last year's Super Bowl a record of over 106 million people watched the New Orleans Saints topple the Indianapolis Colts, making it the most watched television telecast of all time. With this year's NFL ratings the highest ever, this year's Super Bowl has a legitimate shot to surpass last year's massive rating. The added pressure could effect Green Bay, but Pittsburgh has been through this before, and one shouldn't discount that advantage.

Regardless of who you are rooting for in Super Bowl XLV, take the time on Super Sunday to appreciate the sport that has become a national phenomenon. With the labor unrest still at full blaze, no resolution in sight, and a lockout apparently imminent, it could be the last NFL game in some time. If that worst-case scenario does indeed occur, hopefully the Steelers and Packers can at least send us out with a memorable game.



Courtesy of the Associated Press



Courtesy of Clint Olfen

The University of Mary Washington equestrian team competed in the annual Tournament of Champions last Saturday and finished eighth.

## Writing Contest

Get paid for doing your homework. Enter papers written for 2010 Mary Washington classes in the Twentieth Annual Writing Contest.

\$100 prizes



Applications:  
Writing Center  
Trinkle Hall 107A or  
[www.umw.edu/cas/writing/contest](http://www.umw.edu/cas/writing/contest)

Deadline: February 14, 2011  
Sponsored by the Writing Intensive Program

Contact: Jane Gatewood-654-1036



# Sports

## Women's Basketball Smokes Competition

By ZACH MORETTI  
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington women's basketball team cruised to a pair of road conference wins in their last two games, improving to 14-5 overall and 10-1 against CAC competition.

UMW blew past St. Mary's last Saturday, routing the Seahawks 69-47. The game was closely contested for much of the first half, as the score was tied on six different occasions and UMW's biggest lead in the first 13 minutes was just five points.

But with the game knotted up at 24-apiece with 6:50 remaining in the opening half, the Eagles took off both offensively and defensively. The UMW

offense exploded for a 19-0 run while their stingy defense held the Seahawks scoreless for nearly six and a half minutes of play, turning the once tight game into a blowout.

St. Mary's couldn't make up any ground in the second half, as the Eagles lead was consistently over 20 points and ballooned as high as 28 points.

A trio of junior guards led the UMW charge, as Jenna McRae, Katie Wimmer and Rachel Martin combined for 48 points, more than the entire St. Mary's team. McRae scored 21 points and pulled down 12 rebounds, both of which were game highs. Wimmer posted 16 points and grabbed eight rebounds while Martin put in 11 points while dishing out a game-high seven assists.

"I think our offense as a whole was flowing really well," McRae said. "We were able to work it inside and out, which opened up lanes so that I could drive to the basket."

Following the St. Mary's win, the Lady Eagles traveled to Marymount this past Monday to make up a game that had twice been pushed back because of inclement weather. The delay was not an issue for UMW, as they easily handled



Courtesy of Clint Offen

**Junior Jenna McRae (10) led the Eagles in scoring the last two games and was later named the CAC Women's Basketball Player of the Week.**

the host Saints in a defensive struggle, 45-21. The win allowed the Eagles to avenge their only conference loss of the season.

"Words can't describe how good it felt to beat Marymount and shut them down to four second half points," McRae said. "They are hands down our biggest rival and to beat them on their home court is always big."

Once again, UMW got off to a slow start. The Eagles offense sputtered early, as they scored just one point in

the first 7 minutes and didn't make their first field goal until more than eight and a half minutes into the game.

Marymount took advantage of the Eagles woes to jump out to an 8-1 lead. However, although UMW put themselves in a hole from the start and shot just 24 percent from the field in the first half, they battled back to take a 19-17 halftime lead.

The second half was a different story for UMW, as they asserted their will upon the Saints. The Eagles offense put

up 26 points on 46 percent shooting, but the most noteworthy element of the half was their dominant defense. Marymount shot just 7 percent from the field (2-28) and scored just four points after intermission. The Saints also had difficulty taking care of the ball, as they had an astoundingly high 27 turnovers for the game.

"Defense is always the focus of the game," Wimmer said. "Our defense has come a long way since the beginning of the year. Before every game that's the main thing we talk about."

After dropping their first two games and playing just .500 after their first eight, the women's basketball team is now alone atop the CAC standings, 2.5 games ahead of the nearest team.

"I think as long as we keep up playing like we have been, we will be the favorite to take the CAC title," Wimmer said. "Since the beginning of this season I think we as a team have expected a lot out of ourselves, and it never changed throughout the slow start."

McRae said she thought it was important for her team to take one game at a time, but she also echoed her teammates confidence in what this team can accomplish.

"We can't think about the tournament until it comes, and once it does, I'm pretty confident we'll be able to take on anyone."

*Words can't describe how good it felt to beat Marymount and shut them down to four second-half points. They are hands down our biggest rival and to beat them on their home court is always big.*

-Junior Jenna McRae

## Men's Basketball Splits A Pair of CAC Matchups

By MADALYN CROWELL  
Staff Writer

The University of Mary Washington men's basketball team suffered an 11-point road loss to nationally-ranked St. Mary's College of Maryland last Saturday, Jan. 29. The Eagles rebounded from that loss to knock off Marymount University on Monday, Jan. 31, by a score of 75-64. The split of games puts the Eagles overall record at 13-6 and moved them to 7-4 against Capital Athletic Conference competition.

Against St. Mary's, UMW's defense was critical early, as they held the Seahawks without a point for more than six minutes to open the game. The Eagles got out to a 6-0 lead and held slim leads over St. Mary's multiple times in the first half. However, the Seahawks offense gained momentum as the half wound down and led UMW 29-25 at intermission.

Marymount came out of the break strong, going on their own 8-0 run to begin the second half to take a 38-36 advantage, their first lead of the game.

UMW junior Ryan Farrar added a pair of three-pointers and junior Mike Harvey put up five more points to spark an 11-0 Eagles response run to retake the lead 49-40. Once Mary Washington retook the lead, they never relinquished it again en route to the 11-point win.

"It was a great team win top to bottom," Farrar said. "The good thing with our team this year that's different than past years is that anyone of our players can step up and make big plays at any time every game. This game it was Ryan Henderson and Mike Harvey that made the plays we needed to get the win."

Harvey, a junior, was the high-scorer for the game with 22 points and found offensive support from fellow junior Ryan Henderson, who poured in 13 points.

Freshman Walt Smith was another key player and had a great all-around day, scoring nine points while adding six rebounds and six assists in the win over the Saints.

Though UMW is currently tied for third in the CAC standings, men's basketball head coach Rod Wood said that this team still has roadblocks they have to face going forward.

"Our conference schedule is tough and any team can

beat any other team, so every game is a challenge," Wood said. "The team that comes ready to play and executes their game plan will win. The quicker [the players] learn that they can't just show up and win and that they must prepare diligently every day, then they will get to the next level."

"We have a really deep team, which makes us tough to play against," Farrar said. "We're happy for our win and looking to build off this to gain some momentum for our ultimate goal, which is the CAC Championship."

The Eagles next opponent will be Salisbury University this Saturday at 4 p.m., when UMW takes on the Seagulls on their home court.



Courtesy of Clint Offen

**Junior Mike Harvey averages 6.6 points per game but scored a game-high 22 points in the win last Monday night over Marymount.**

St. Mary's carried their momentum into the second half as they busted out of halftime on an 11-0 run to push the lead to 15 points. The Eagles trimmed the Seahawks lead to as low as six points, but UMW was never able to regain the lead.

Top scorers in Saturday's game were freshmen E.J. Willis and Bradley Riester, with 16 and 13 points respectively, and junior Tad Dickman who scored 12.

UMW started their makeup game against Marymount with a quick 8-0 run, but the host Saints were not deterred as they quickly responded before the deficit grew too large. At halftime, the Eagles were in the lead by a score of 36-30.

## Why the Lombardi Trophy Is Headed to Pittsburgh



Courtesy of the Associated Press

**Steelers safety Troy Polamalu is crucial to the vaunted Pittsburgh defense.**

By ZACH MORETTI  
Staff Writer

Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Tx. is soon to be flooded with cheese heads and terrible towels, as two of the most historic NFL teams square off in Super Bowl XLV. With the biggest game of America's most popular sport now just days away, the Pittsburgh Steelers and Green Bay Packers prepare to battle for the coveted Lombardi Trophy.

Both teams have superb quarterbacks that lead strong offenses, and each team has a dominant de-

fense anchored by an elite playmaker. But while these teams appear evenly matched on a basic level, the deeper I look the more confident I am that Pittsburgh will win the title and, in the process, push Wiz Khalifa's "Black and Yellow" song to a sickeningly overplayed level.

Despite Green Bay having a higher-ranked offense in the regular season in terms of total yards and points scored, I'd much prefer to have Pittsburgh's balanced offensive attack come Sunday then the Packers one-dimensional offense. The Steelers' passing numbers on the year were knocked down some due to the four-game suspension of quarterback Ben Roethlisberger, so in reality they have a passing attack near the top-10 to go along with their ground game that ranked 11th in the league. Meanwhile, the Packers success all comes from quarterback Aaron Rodgers, as they ranked fifth in the NFL in passing yards per game, but just 24th in terms of rushing yards.

Roethlisberger threw for 3,200 yards, 17 touchdowns and only five interceptions in his 12 starts this year, while running back Rashard Mendenhall did most of the damage running the ball, finishing the season with 1,273 yards and 13 touchdowns. The Green Bay run defense ranked 18th in the NFL in rushing yards allowed (114.9) and gave up the second most yards per carry to opposing rushers (4.7), which means Mendenhall should be able to have a good day. Success in the ground game should allow the Steelers to control the ball and keep the vaunted Packers passing attack on the sidelines.

For Green Bay, Rodgers had an absolutely stellar year, throwing for 3,922 yards, 28 passing touchdowns and also 4 rushing scores. But though running back James Starks has been a nice story to end the season, I think he'll find it hard to gain an inch against a Steelers defense that was tops in the league in rushing yards allowed (62.8), rushing touchdowns surrendered (5) and yards per carry (3.0). That means Pittsburgh's legendary defensive coordinator, Dick LeBeau, has had the last

**SUPER BOWL, page 11**

## Athlete of the Week

UMW junior basketball player Jenna McRae was named the CAC Women's Basketball Player of the Week after her stellar performance against St. Mary's. McRae scored a game high 21 points and also pulled in 12 rebounds in the Eagles win over the Seahawks.



Courtesy of Clint Offen